

Producing for Placemaking Commissioning brief

Dance Manchester is seeking to commission two new dance works for the outdoors and alternative spaces. We would welcome proposals which respond to the following commissioning briefs by the deadline of **midnight of 29th April 2018**

Shortlisted artists/companies will be expected to attend an interview during the week of the **8th-11 May 2018**

Applicants must be available to make this work and be ready to present it at Refract festival, proposed dates **Friday 20th and Saturday 21st July 2018**

Commission 2:

A family friendly professional dance performance suitable for touring to libraries

Eligibility and guidance

1. We are looking for a proposal for the development of a work from all dance disciplines and genres.
2. You should consider if your idea for this performance work may relate to reading, a specific book or story, or books in general and/or events such as National libraries week and explain this relationship as part of your proposal.
3. We are looking to support a proposal that develops a contemporary performance that innovates, is ambitious and works through a choreographic structure with a clear beginning and clear ending and will communicate to a public audience. The work may or may not have a narrative, the content of the work should be suitable to be shown in a public space to a family audience. We will prioritise ideas which are accessible to as wide an age range as possible and can be enjoyed by all members of a family group.
4. The proposed work must be suitable for touring to libraries and other alternative spaces, e.g works which utilise indoor small spaces that are commonly found in a range of UK libraries and public buildings will be considered
5. The lead dance artist / dance company for this work should be able to provide footage of their work (from the last 3 years) with their proposal
6. The lead dance artist / dance company should be able to demonstrate a track record of working at a professional level for at least two years. (e.g. this is not suitable for undergraduates or graduates in their first year out of university)
7. The lead dance artist/dance company must have their work ready to present to a public audience as part of the Refract Festival, managed by Waterside Arts, Sale, Trafford, proposed dates Friday 20th and Saturday 21st July 2018.
8. Applications are welcome from artists/companies who may not have had previous experience of making dance work for alternative spaces
9. The final performance work should last 20-40 minutes maximum

10. The lead dance artist/ dance company should be prepared to perform the proposed work on a range of surfaces and consider in their development of the work the fact that many libraries will have carpeted or tiled floors. Consideration should be given to the way in which the performance can be presented (ie non-traditional spaces, do not usually have raked seating or rased staging etc. Could the piece be performed in the round or as a promenade piece)
11. The lead dance artist / dance company must be resident in the North West of England (for our purposes this includes, Cheshire, Cumbria, Greater Manchester, Lancashire and Merseyside)
12. Proposals for work should be adaptable in scale, suitable for daytime and/or evening presentation

The Commissioned Artist will receive

- £10k commission, paid in 2 installments one of £9k subject to contract and a second of £1k post completion of all performances and evaluation requirements
- Up to £900 in fees for delivery of schools workshops & performances (autumn 2018)
- Up to 3 weeks of access to space to support creation of the commissioned work
- Support to produce publicity shots and show trailer
- Mentoring support from Luca Silvestrini of Protein Dance (focused support around making performance work for the outdoors & unusual spaces) www.proteindance.co.uk
- Some marketing and tour-booking support

The Commissioned Artist will be required to

- Create a contemporary performance to a high standard meeting the brief and that is of a standard suitable for touring
- Be ready and able to present this performance up to a maximum of 4 times across 2 days, on 20th & 21st July 2018 as part of Refract festival,
- Be available to deliver workshops/show to schools in autumn 2018 (dates to be negotiated)
- Be available to tour the performance work
- Attend the CPD day to be held with Luca Silvestrini in June 2018 and other scheduled mentoring days through to September 2018 (up to 7 dates in total, 2 of which will be the performance dates where Luca will view the works)
- Attend an Artists networking event on Rural Touring

Companies and artists in receipt of National Portfolio funding are not eligible to apply for this opportunity.

Deadline for Proposals: Midnight on 29th April 2018.

Proposals should be sent to clare@dancemanchester.org.uk and should include:

1. Contact details for the lead artist/dance company, including mobile, postal address, postcode, and email and a website address if you have one
2. Clearly indicate which commission you are applying for
3. Please indicate which dance styles your performance work will comprise
4. Up to 500 words outlining your idea for the performance work
5. Up to 250 words detailing why you think your idea is best presented in a library or non-traditional space.
6. Indicate what you think will need in terms of technical equipment and props to present your performance. (Please remember that most libraries will not have a lighting rig, nor a stage)
7. Indicate how many people will be involved in your performance work and what their roles will be

8. A brief biography of each person who will be involved in developing your performance work/performing in it, no more than 50 words per person. (We recommend that you do not build a project with a large cast for this work, as this will make it more expensive to tour)
9. Up to 250 words detailing your/your companies experience of working in schools
10. A budget of demonstrating how you would spend the £10k commission to enable the creation of the performance, showing both income and expenditure
11. Up to 3 links to video footage available online of your work, supplied with any associated passwords, please include a brief description of what your role was in each project that you supply film for
12. CV(s) of the lead choreographer(s) who will take responsibility for developing your idea
13. Contact details for two referees who can and are willing to comment on the choreographic ability of the dance artist / dance company should be supplied with the proposal

If you are successful in being selected for this commission you will be required to supply the following before the commission can be confirmed, or any payment made

- Evidence of your right to work in the UK
- An enhanced DBS for all your company/performers and yourself
- Proof of your public liability insurance

Shortlisted Artists may be invited to attend an interview which will be held during the week of the **8th-11th May 2018**

Selection of the commissioned artist or company will be by a panel which comprises:

Owen Hutchings, Senior Arts in Libraries Officer, St Helen's Council

A representative of Trafford Libraries

Darren Adams, Director, Waterside Arts

Deb Ashby, Director, Dance Manchester

This project is being supported by Waterside Arts, Trafford Libraries, One Dance UK and Sustained Theatre up North, the Arts in Libraries Cultural hub at St Helen's Council

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